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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 24 April 1952

NO. OF PAGES 2

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Highway Construction and Demolition,
Chekiang and Kwangtung

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. In early March 1952 the Chinese Communists began constructing a highway between Lienchiang (119-31, 26-12) and Peilingsui (120-00, 26-24), using 1,500 civilian laborers recruited locally. All bridges on this highway are being designed to support 10-ton vehicles. By late March the Lienchiang-P'uk'ou (119-36, 26-14) section of this highway had been completed.
2. In early April 1952 the Kwangtung Military District Command ordered the Kwangtung 7 Military Sub-District to strengthen coastal defense works and to demolish all highways within 10 miles of the central Kwangtung coast.
3. During early April 1952 defense works at Yaimenf'ou in Hsinhui (113-06, 22-34) Hsien and at Tuhu (112-57, 22-04), Kuanghai (112-48, 21-58), Peichingshih (111-56, 21-47), Chihkung (111-37, 21-46), and Chap'o (111-46, 21-37) were all being strengthened.
4. In early April 1952 the highway from Tuhu to Kuanghai through Toushan (112-50, 22-03) and the highway from Taao (112-17, 21-47) to Chihkung through Peichingshih were demolished.

5. In mid April 1952 the Chinese Communist military authorities in Peiping

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[redacted] ordered the Kwangtung military authorities to repair the Canton-Shench'uan (114-08, 22-32) highway and to widen it by 28 feet so that two-way traffic will be possible. This work, scheduled to be completed by the end of May, is being undertaken to insure the maintenance of traffic between Hong Kong and Canton in the event of effective bombing of the Canton-Kowloon railway during a Nationalist invasion of the China mainland. Chinese Communist authorities believe it will be easier for an enemy to interrupt traffic by bombing the Canton-Kowloon railway than by bombing the Canton-Shench'uan highway. This belief is based upon the 1937-38 Japanese bombing of the railway.

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6. In mid-April roads near the sea coast in Chungshan (113-36, 22-22) Hsien as well as in T'aishan (112-48, 22-15) Hsien were partly demolished in order to prevent any invading troops from proceeding inland. Motor traffic at speeds up to 15 miles per hour is still possible on these roads, but the roads could easily be made completely impassable at short notice.

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7. In mid-April Chinese Communist Party workers in Nant'ou (113-56, 22-31) were warning residents who obtain travel permits for a visit to Hong Kong that an invasion of Hong Kong is scheduled to take place in the near future. They were also warned not to attempt to remain permanently in Hong Kong because they would be executed by the Chinese Communist authorities when they occupied Hong Kong.²

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1. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] most of the highways along the coastal area have been destroyed by the Chinese Communists. Other information available to this office indicates that the Chinese Communists are destroying many access roads along the Kwangtung coast as a defensive measure against invasion and that inland roads and bridges are being greatly improved to bear heavy military traffic. [redacted] Chinese Communist defense measures on the south Kwangtung coast.

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2. [redacted] Comment. The Chinese Communists are merely attempting to frighten Hong Kong bound travellers into returning to the mainland as soon as possible.

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